

# ACADEMIC POLICY & STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING

**FIU**

FLORIDA  
INTERNATIONAL  
UNIVERSITY

DATE: 9-22-2022

# Textbook Affordability

Textbooks and Instructional Materials Affordability and Transparency  
Annual Report 2021-2022

# Textbook Affordability



## **Authorization:**

### **Textbook and Instructional Materials Affordability and Transparency (1004.085 FS)**

Each BOT to adopt policies and develop institutional initiatives for innovative pricing techniques and payment options to reduce the cost of course materials.



## **Reporting Requirement:**

### **Textbook and Instructional Materials and Transparency Affordability (BOG Reg. 8.003)**

Reporting University practices designed to reduce costs of course materials (due to the BOG by September 30 of each year).

## Textbook Adoptions Cost and Posting Requirement

Semester	Total Course Sections	Course Sections with No Textbook Cost	Course Sections with Low* Textbook Cost
Fall 2021	7,603	3,462 (46%)	1,986 (26%)
Spring 2022	7,414	3,523 (48%)	1,934 (26%)

\*\$20 per credit or less

Semester	Total Course Sections Evaluated	Course Sections Identified as Exceptions*	Course Sections Meeting the Posting Requirement	Course Sections Not Meeting the Posting Requirement**
Fall 2021	5,127	2,476	4,748 (92.61%)	379 (7.39%)
Spring 2022	5,088	2,327	4,781 (93.97%)	307 (6.03%)

\*i.e. internships, supervised teaching and dissertation type courses; sections for which the instructor was hired after the legal deadline  
 \*\*i.e. new or modified adoptions due to adoption entry error

Regular Annual Report - Not Considering the Panther Book Pack Program Impact

Semester	Total Course Sections	Undergrad Sections	Course Sections with PBP Flat Rate	PBP Savings to Students
Fall 2021	7,603	5,001		
Spring 2022	7,414	4,840		

\*x undergraduate sections were excluded because adopted single-use materials were not eligible for the Panther Book Pack Program

Report with 2021-2022 Panther Book Pack Pilot Program Impact





## Panther Book Pack (PBP) Pilot Program

For our students' success:

A \$20 flat rate per undergraduate credit for the rental of required course materials

- A **subscription-based rental** program for **required** course materials (print and digital) across all **undergraduate** courses through our on-campus Barnes & Noble bookstores.
- PBP is focused on offering the **lowest cost possible** and **equitable access** through inclusive access and the guarantee that materials are readily available on the first day of class.
- Students who do not wish to participate in the PBP program can use the one-click **opt-out function** each semester.





## Panther Book Pack (PBP) Pilot Outcomes

### Convenience

81% of students think it's convenient to have course materials bundled and delivered through PBP

### Save Time

77% of students agree that PBP saves them time when shopping for course materials

### Better Prepared

68% of students agreed that PBP helped them be better prepared for the academic term

### Recommend

80% of students are likely to recommend the program to fellow students

	Participation Rate	Eligible Students	Savings
Fall 2021:	51%	39,317	\$4,4 Mio
Spring 2022:	51%		

## Other University Initiatives



Launched in June 2016, the **Affordability Counts (AC)** initiative spearheaded by FIU Online in partnership with the FIU Libraries, and the Center for the Advancement of Teaching, acknowledges faculty who use low- or no-cost course materials at \$20 or less per credit hour. Qualifying courses earn the AC medallion.

SUS partners who have signed on to this initiative include the University of Central Florida, University of North Florida, University of South Florida, Florida A&M University, Florida Atlantic University, and Lake Sumter College. A searchable database of all AC courses in Florida is at <https://affordabilitycounts.org>.

**2,515** courses taught by **1,477** faculty across the participating SUS institutions earned the “Affordability Counts” medallion by submitting their courses to this initiative.

# FIU

## Enrollment Services

**3,253** students received **\$1M** in financial aid book advances – this is a 50% decrease compared to previous years which we attribute to the Panther Book Pack initiative

# FIU

## Libraries

Access to **4.7M+** items in e-format, **1,160** databases, **11,849** items on course reserve

# FIU

## Law

Students saved in excess of **\$200K** through **subscription-based resources** provided by the College of Law library

# FIU

The combined efforts of these units help us keep the cost of textbooks and instructional materials low in general and to maintain the Panther Book Pack flat rate of \$20

# Appendix



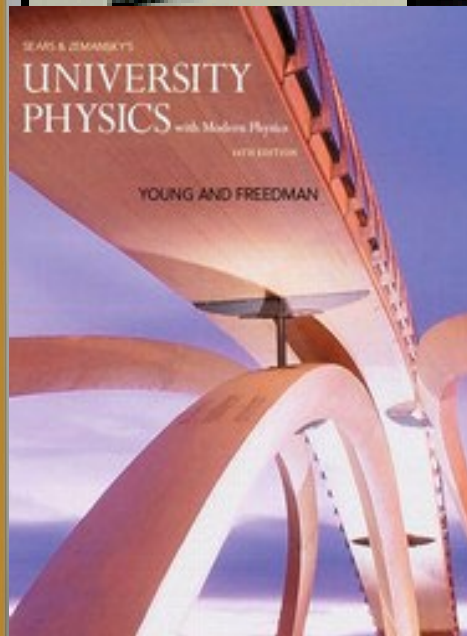
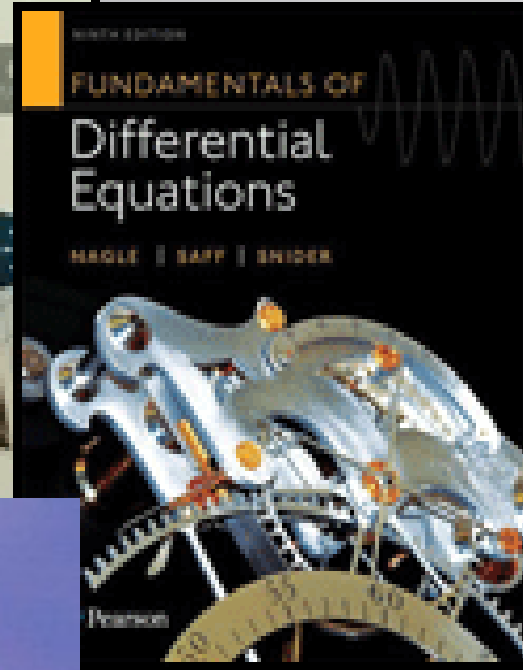
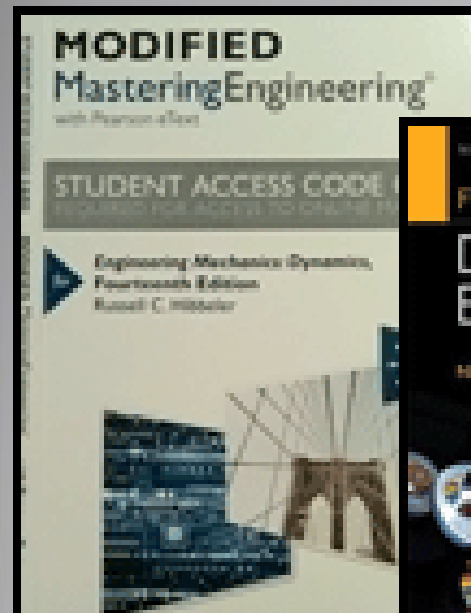
PANTHER  
**BOOK  
PACK**



**FIU**







A list of required course materials for 12 credits taken by an undergraduate Civil and Environmental Engineering major:

- Selecting the lowest available option of each, this pack would cost \$474.55.
- Under the Panther Book Pack flat rate, this pack costs \$240.
- Plus, the added convenience that all books may be picked up at the campus Barnes & Noble bookstore or shipped off campus.
- It eliminates the hassle of shopping around and ensures timely delivery by the first day of class.